

2020 by the Numbers

Our Collection: What You Can Borrow and Use

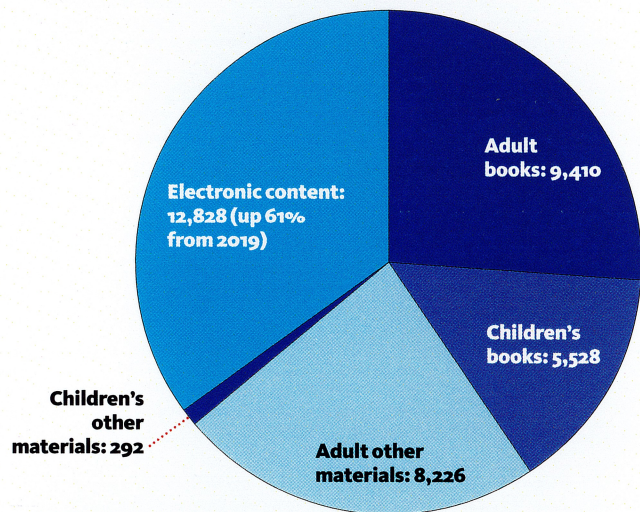
Print material: 25,271

Electronic materials—e-books, downloadable audio and video, e-magazines, databases: 20,192 (up 5% from 2019)

Non-electronic materials—DVDs, books on CD, museum passes, etc.: 5,341

Total holdings: 50,804—up 3% from 2019

2020 Circulation



Total circulation: 33,591

Borrowers: 4,311—up 7% from 2019

285 new patrons in 2020—52% increase in new patrons over 2019

Total number of visitors: 16,007



Pre-pandemic, kids enjoyed creating tornadoes in a bottle.



Masks on, the library staff adapted to new ways of running a library.

2020 programs

Adult program sessions: 154

Children's and teen program sessions: 84

Family and other program sessions: 4

One-on-One programs: 227 (job search help, "take and make" programs)

Program attendance:

Adult program attendance: 2,042

Children's and teen program attendance: 1,592

Family and other program attendance: 48

One-on-One program attendance: 227

Visits to website: 25,445—20% increase from 2019

Computer sessions: 866

Wireless access: 6,000

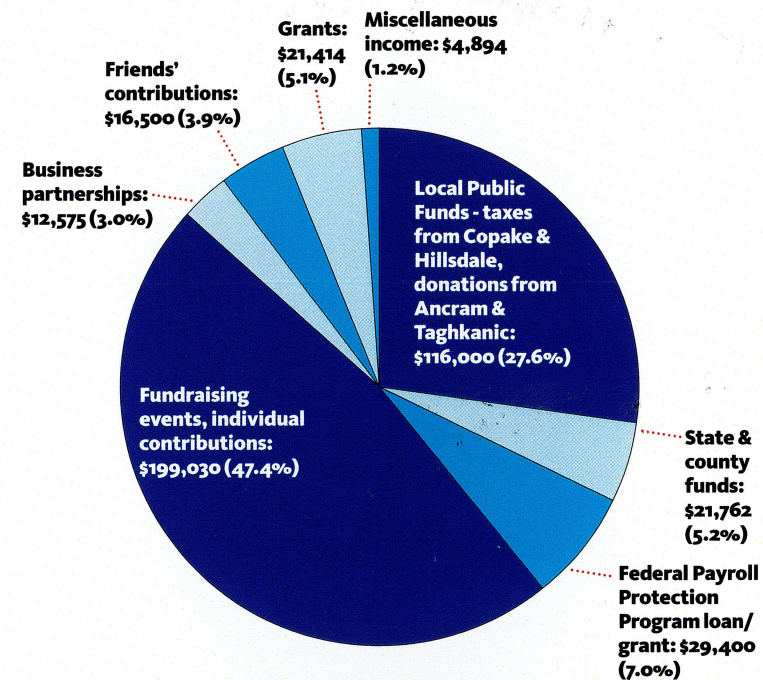
RJCL Local Public Funds in Comparison to Other Libraries (3-year average)

RJCL: \$15.30/capita

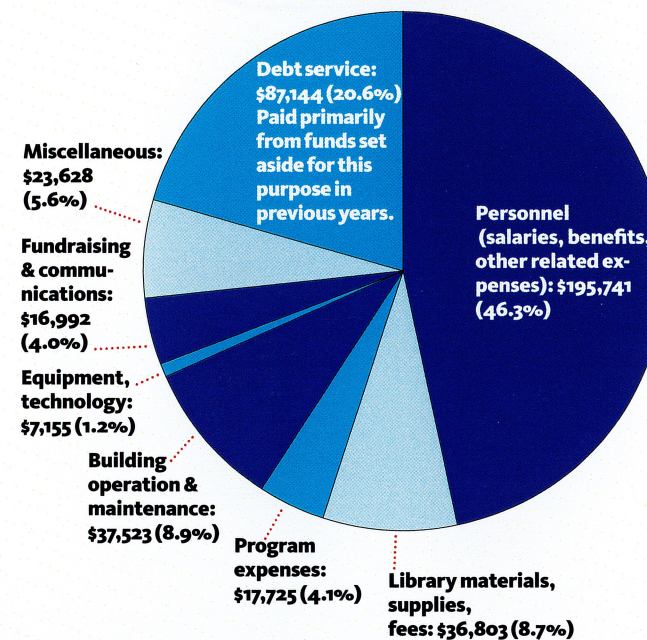
Columbia County libraries: \$30.49/capita

Mid-Hudson Library System libraries: \$50.13/capita

How Is Your Library Funded? Income — \$420,107



What Does the Money Pay For? Expenses — \$422,711



2020: A Year of Growth and Gratitude

In reflecting back over the past year, I feel extremely fortunate to live and work where I do. It was a hard year for all of us, but it also was a year for growth and gratitude. When forced to close our doors for several months last spring, it was heartbreaking. However, it was also an opportunity to stretch and to find new ways to serve our community.

We quickly learned new technologies and developed new kinds of programs. We invested in even more online materials. We found ways to foster community through poetry and art projects. We made face shields, collected food for the local food pantry, and provided job search help. We checked in with our seniors to offer help and sometimes just a much-needed ear. We brought people together online for book discussion groups, writing workshops, and graphic novel workshops, and outside for concerts and children's programs.

Many people took advantage of our free Wi-Fi, both outside our building and inside, once we reopened in July, to teach and to take classes, to apply and interview for jobs, and to work remotely.

The pandemic reinforced and demonstrated that our library is not just a building, or books, or DVDS, or even programs—though it provides all of those and more—but is an essential component of our community. And we were not alone in this realization. We welcomed more new patrons to our library community in 2020 than at any time since the new library building opened, even with more limited services, and we welcomed back many others who had not used the library in several years.

Despite having to cancel our annual gala, our biggest fundraiser for the year, we were able to end the year in the black thanks the generosity of our donors, including many new donors. Over and over, you have told us how much you appreciate our work this year.

We appreciate, in turn, all the support that you provide us. Thank you.

Tammy Gaskell / Library Director

In 2020 Your Library:

- **UPGRADED ITS INTERNET CONNECTION** from DSL to fiber, providing more reliable and faster service
- **ELIMINATED OVERDUE FINES** for most items
- Added even **MORE ONLINE RESOURCES**, including hoopla—for electronic books, audiobooks, movies, magazines, and more—and the Register Star
- Collected and **DELIVERED COUNTLESS BAGS OF GROCERIES** to the Roe Jan Food Pantry
- Shared stories from local residents during a time of isolation through a series of **ORAL HISTORY INTERVIEWS** (roejanlibrary.org/covid-19-local-oral-history/)
- **COLLABORATED WITH NEIGHBORING LIBRARIES** on virtual summer reading programs and programs for adults
- Held a fall series of **OUTDOOR CONCERTS**
- **PAVED AND EXPANDED THE PARKING LOT**, with funds from a New York State construction grant
- Received a grant from the American Library Association to provide **MOBILE WI-FI HOTSPOTS** to lend to patrons
- Welcomed **NEARLY 300 NEW PATRONS** to the library—a more than 50% increase in new patrons compared to 2019

To receive our e-newsletter, which keeps you up to date on programs and resources, send an e-mail request to COMMUNICATIONS@ROEJANLIBRARY.ORG

Also visit our website, ROEJANLIBRARY.ORG, and our **FACEBOOK** and **INSTAGRAM** pages

Register for a library account by visiting ROEJANLIBRARY.ORG/GET-A-CARD

Feel free to contact us with any questions—we are here to help!

TAMMY GASKELL, LIBRARY DIRECTOR, 518-325-4101, DIRECTOR@ROEJANLIBRARY.ORG

PATRICIA A. PLACONA, PRESIDENT, BOARD OF TRUSTEES, PATPLACONA@GMAIL.COM

*****ECRWSS****

Local Postal Customer



● Welcomed new children's/youth services associate, Tia Maggio



● Facilitated virtual visits from Santa with local children



● Got kids outdoors with Story Walks®, pumpkin painting, and outdoor story time



● Held its first annual Teen Job Fair

We Want to Hear from YOU!

Whether you currently use the library or not, we value your opinion. Please complete a brief survey to help us better serve your community.

VISIT: ROEJANLIBRARY.ORG/SURVEY.